

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Variations on ‘Bourbon’ ‘It Happened on That Fateful Night’ ‘Now Let Us With One Accord’
(Peter Niedmann)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Brian Walter

INTROIT Crashing Waters at Creation (*Dunstan/Cross*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together,
seeking God’s guidance for our lives.

**We gather seeking wisdom
that we may walk in God’s way.**

We gather together seeking hope
for a broken world.

**We gather seeking justice
for all people.**

Come, let us worship God—
**in whose word
we find abundant life!**

***HYMN** O God beyond All Praising p. 7

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

**Weaver God, you have woven your creation
together using your relationship with us, and ours
with each other to give rich, intricate and diverse
patterns to all of life. We have become aware of
times when our choices have torn the fabric of our
lives; times when only afterwards did we twig to**

**the realization that we only wanted to connect with those
who were most like us. Challenge us to accept our
differences— to find the common ground of your Spirit.
Help us to connect through your gift of grace, evident in
every act of care, felt in every kind word of welcome.
God in Community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus’
name. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

God in the world changes the world—and us.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Dance With the Spirit (*MV 156*)

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin’,
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.**

**Work and hope for the new life a bornin’,
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.** (*J.Strathdee*)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (*on insert*)

We welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism today,
Addison Grace Villalta, daughter of David and Katie-sister
to Isabella.

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 111 p. 8

(I thank you, God, with my whole heart.) Kathie Blackman

ANTHEM The Storm is Passing Over (*C.Tindley arr.B.Baker*)

GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35 p.20 *Pew Bible*

(How many times must I forgive?)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Grace Notes

HYMN Love Is the Touch (*A.Robertson/J.Bell*) *MV 89*

Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

SHARING GOD’S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Lullaby (*Mychael Danna*)

***DEDICATION** We Are An Offering (*D. Liles*)

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours;
we are an offering. We are an offering.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER
PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING**

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (C.McDade)

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me. (VU 381)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER
VU p.910

***HYMN** Though Ancient Walls p. 7

***COMMISSIONING**

May the Creator within us and around us,
above us and below us,
bless us and keep us—**now and forever.**

***SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song (MV 213)

Take up his song of love and go into the world.

Take up his song of love in ev’ry moment.

In ev’ry moment of the journey,

we’re laying down our lives;

lay them down in love, lay them down,

and take up his song.

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our God

(J.S.Bach arr. Noel Rawsthorne)

News From the Edge



As summer days come to an end and we return to our regular schedules, it is the right time to reconnect and recap on the progress made this summer in the AUC re-building project.

The EDGE Property Committee is pleased to say that Stage 1, the substructure of the building, is close to completion bringing our focus to the next stage – building the above-ground structure from the Yonge Street level and up!

Here are some of the updates we are excited about:
The Dalton Company has been hired to provide Construction Management Services

Dalton has been diligently working on the preconstruction planning to provide “Value Engineering, Design Assist, and Cost Estimation services to ensure an optimized building design commensurate with the Church’s program, operations and budget”
The steel contract has been awarded with considerable savings

EDGE looks forward to sharing more exciting progress reports in the months to come. Our design and construction teams have been tasked with finding savings in time and cost to move this project along to the completion of a beautiful church facility that meets our needs and future dreams.



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.



AURORA UNITED CHURCH

An Affirming Congregation

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar
Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney

Church Office 905-727-1935
www.auroraunitedchurch.ca





PENTECOST 16
September 17, 2023
11:00 AM

God of the seasons, you surround us with beauty and wonder: you smile in the ripening fruit, you dance in the tumbling leaves. Teach us to dance with you, to act justly and the share fairly, to love you in friend and stranger all the moments of our nights and days.

O God beyond All Praising VU256

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendour in time must surely die, its fragile bloom surrender to you our God most high; but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown, though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown: for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free, and we through him are given the final victory.

Then, hear O gracious Saviour, this song of praise we sing. May we, who know your favour, our humble service bring; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Though Ancient Walls VU 691

Though ancient walls may still stand proud and racial strife be fact, though boundaries may be lines of hate, proclaim God's saving act!

**Walls that divide are broken down;
Christ is our unity!
Chains that enslave are thrown aside;
Christ is our liberty!**

When vested power stands firm entrenched and breaks another's back, when waste and want live side by side, it's Gospel that we lack. **R**

The truth we seek in varied scheme, the life that we pursue, unites us in a common quest for self and world made new. **R**

The church divided seeks that grace, that newness we proclaim; a unity of serving love that lives. **R**

This broken world seeks lasting health and vital unity. God's people by God's Word renewed, cast off all slavery! **R**

Psalm 111

R Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

I will thank you, God, with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in their assembly.

Great are your works, O God, studied by all who delight in them.

Honour and majesty are your work; your righteousness endures forever.

You have won renown for your wonders; you are gracious and full of compassion. R

You give food to those who fear you; you keep your covenant always in mind.

You have shown your power in action, giving your people the heritage of nations.

The works of your hands are faithful and just; all your precepts trustworthy.

They stand fast forever and ever; grounded in justice and truth.

You sent redemption to your people;

you decreed your covenant forever. Holy and awesome is your name. R

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom;

those who practise it have good understanding. May your praise endure forever. R

